



Delaware Nutrient Management



The Delaware Nutrient Management Commission Technology Minutes of the Meeting Held December 05, 2006

In attendance:

<i>Committee Members Present</i>	<i>Others Present</i>
T. Keen, Chair	D. Baker
K. Blessing	B. O'Neill
J. Manchester	B. Coleman
R. Sterling	P. Diehl
B. Vanderwende	K. Foskey
<i>Committee Members Absent</i>	T. Garrahan
R. Baldwin	D. Hansen
C. West	S. Hollenbeck
<i>Ex-Officios Present</i>	S. Kepfer
W. Rohrer, Jr.	J. McGrath
	J. Noffsinger
	M. Noffsinger
	R. Noffsinger
	K. Rankine
	T. Sims

This meeting was properly notified and posted as required by law.

Call to Order/Welcome:

Chairman T. Keen called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

J. Manchester motioned to approved the July 19, 2006 Technology meeting minutes. Motion seconded by R. Sterling, and passed unanimously.

Discussion and Action Items:

Nitrogen use for de-icing in DE findings and discussion:

B. Rohrer provided topic background, stating that at one of the Public Hearings, it was brought to the Commission's attention that a neighboring state has used urea for the purposes of de-icing roadways. The use of urea in this manner would have a definite effect on nutrients being introduced into neighboring waterways. B. Rohrer introduced B. Coleman, who had prepared a report on the topic. B. Coleman contacted several airports within the state as well as the Delaware Department of Transportation. None of the agencies contacted engage in the use of urea for the purposes of de-icing.

University of Delaware mass balance project discussion:

B. Rohrer introduced Dr. Tom Sims, of the University of Delaware, who had prepared a PowerPoint Presentation dealing with Delaware's Nutrient Balances. Dr. Sims noted that since the Commission's inception, Delaware has seen a 40% decrease in the Nitrogen surplus, and a 51% decrease in the

Phosphorus surplus. Although some of this decrease can be explained by a loss in crop lands, Dr. Sims felt that a large part of the decrease is directly attributable to the work of the Commission. The Nutrient Balance Report is designed to account for Phosphate, Perdue AgriRecycle, Relocation and other practices that affect the overall balance. The presentation continued with several scenarios and breakdowns of Nutrient Budget data. He expressed a suspected error with bird placement data provided by the NASS. Dr. Sims suggested a meeting between University of Delaware and B. Rohrer to have those errors corrected. Further, he stated that a full report to the Commission would be forthcoming in January, and will be more detailed with regard to how figures were calculated, etc.

University of Delaware soil testing lab update:

Dr. Sims presented an update on the soil lab at the University of Delaware. He provided background, explained utilized methodologies, etc. And, he provided a comparison of phosphorus saturation ratios as they relate to fertility index values.

Nitrogen management discussion:

T. Keen asked J. Manchester to postpone his discussion on Nitrogen management. J. Manchester responded that he has been requesting this discussion since March, and asked that the meeting take place prior to next Full Commission meeting (December 12, 2006). The Committee agreed upon December 12 at 5:00 for this discussion. J. Manchester asked all Subcommittee members to read his handout, focusing their attention to item #3, increased nitrogen areas as opposed to nitrogen statewide.

Public Comments: NONE

Next Meeting: NONE

Adjournment: Chairman Keen adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

Approved,

Tony Keen, Chair
Technology Subcommittee

BRR/psd